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**A James Baker  
Williams Family  
Album**

Williams



*A*  
JAMES BAKER  
WILLIAMS

FAMILY  
ALBUM



A  
JAMES BAKER WILLIAMS  
FAMILY ALBUM

BY  
SAMUEL H. WILLIAMS  
GLASTONBURY, CONN.  
1949



James Baker Williams  
and his grandson  
James Baker Williams II  
1902

## *Foreword*

“The House that James Built” has been criticized because no pictures of the in-laws were included.

We all acknowledge our gratitude to them and our affection for them. Without them where would we be? Their part in our family life has been paramount. Therefore to keep the record straight something should be said of their personalities and achievements as recorded by their children.

To these sketches and pictures should be added pictures of their children, the grandchildren of James Baker Williams, so many of whom cherish memories of the Thanksgiving and Christmas gatherings in the house that he built, and many delightful Sunday afternoons spent there.

So this “James Baker Williams Family Album” is the result.

To make the Album complete pictures are also included of all the eight children who grew to maturity; as well as of the eight houses in which the families have lived in Glastonbury.

For more information about the lives and activities of the grandchildren consult “Who’s Who in the Family of Solomon Williams.”



David Willard Williams  
1852—1909  
Yale 1876



Helen Rankin Williams  
1854—1901  
Married 1876



Jennie Loomis Williams  
1874—1947  
Married 1905



HELEN PENFIELD RANKIN and her twin brother, John, were born in Portland, Connecticut, in 1854. Their father was the Rev. Samuel G. W. Rankin, son of Rev. John Rankin, of Ripley, Ohio, of the Underground Railroad fame. Dolly Goodrich, of the Connecticut Goodriches was their mother. Ten years later the Rankin family moved to Glastonbury to profit by better schooling. The old home on Main Street was bought—for \$4600.—with the kind help of James B. Williams.

The Oxford School for Girls in Cincinnati was chosen for Helen to attend. There she met her dearest and most lasting friend, Isabel Dodd, well known afterward in educational circles as a teacher for years in the School for Girls in Constantinople. Helen's youngest daughter was named for her. At the end of the school year her younger sister, Lucy, joined her and they toured the west. Their father would not consent to a trip abroad, which they wanted, but was willing that they should go anywhere in this country. So they took the river boat down the Ohio river stopping at Ripley to visit relatives there. Then they kept on as far as California before returning to Glastonbury.

When Helen was 18 years old she was considered mature enough, and to have had sufficient education, to enter the teaching profession. So she was chosen to teach in one of the district schools of the town, in Addison (at that time it was called Eagleville). The next four years were taken up with teaching, and with practicing on the new piano that had been bought upon her return from the Oxford School. She and Lucy always dressed exactly alike until Helen was married, when the new trousseau broke the old tradition.

There was a large wedding in the Congregational Church in October 1876. The couple left the church immediately after the ceremony to spend their honeymoon in Philadelphia, where the groom was in charge of the Williams Company's exhibit at the Centennial Exposition.

They spent the next two years as members of the Rankin family. Mr. Rankin was willing to have any son-in-law live there, but refused to have a daughter-in-law come. "Too

many women living under one roof was not peaceful." There the oldest daughter, Helen Louise, was born. Then came fifteen years in the old Hubbard house on Hubbard Street. When they moved, in 1892, into their new house on Williams Street, the family had grown so that there were now four children. Two years later the youngest daughter, Isabel, was born. Many are the happy memories of house parties and family get-togethers in that house.

Mother was always a rather strict disciplinarian, maybe a hangover from her school teaching days, or to counteract the lack of severity on the part of father—not that we ever put anything over on him. We girls were usually told to go into a dark closet, shut the door and think it over. If three of us were in trouble at one time, there were enough closets for us all. It is interesting to remember the various reactions; Mildred promptly fell asleep, Ruth began to sing, and Isabel to cry. There was also a black ebony ruler which was very effective when used on our hands, for it could surely sting.

All of us had our little household chores to perform daily, but especially on Saturday mornings before we could go out to play; sweeping down the front stairs and dusting all the woodwork (and how I did hate to dust, and still do); then the bathrooms, which I really liked to do, especially polishing the brass faucets and making them shine. Yes, mother was a good housekeeper and took great pride in her lovely home. All who visited enjoyed the hospitality and friendship that emanated from it.

Mother's last few years were filled with pain and suffering, but she did have a lovely trip to England and Scotland which she had so long wanted. She lived to see Louise graduate from Wellesley in 1901. She died in December of that year. The void and emptiness that was left in the house cannot be described. Father did all he could to hold the home together and to be both mother and father to us children. But his loneliness was even greater than ours, so it was a comfort to have him find a true and happy companionship in his marriage to Jennie Loomis. She had five children: Helen Louise, James Willard, Mildred, Ruth Clarice, Isabel Dodd.

JENNIE LOOMIS, Was the second wife of David Willard Williams. Their marriage took place in 1905,

only four years prior to his death. She was the daughter of Judge Dwight Loomis of Rockville, and later of Hartford, Connecticut, and Jennie E. Kendall of Granby, Connecticut. Judge Loomis was U. S. Congressman from Hartford and Tolland Counties from 1859 to 1863, Judge of the Superior Court of Connecticut from 1864 to 1875, Judge of the Connecticut Supreme Court of Errors from 1875 to 1891, and State Referee from 1891 to 1894. Jennie Loomis was an accomplished pianist, and had been on the point of going to Europe for further training when she met and married Mr. Williams. She maintained an active interest in music and literature throughout her life, and was noted for her kindness and generosity. Following the death of her husband, she continued for many years to reside in Glastonbury, but spent an increasingly great amount of her time in Hartford. The last years of her life were lived almost entirely in West Hartford.



Louise W. Kellogg  
1878—  
Wellesley B. A. 1901



George A. Kellogg  
1866—  
Amherst B. A. 1889

Married 1903



James Willard Williams  
1885—  
Yale B. A. 1908 Trinity M. A.  
Married 1910



Charlotte Welles Williams  
1885—



Mildred W. Barnes  
1887—1928



William D. Barnes  
1885—  
Yale B. A. 1907  
Union B. D. 1910

Married 1913



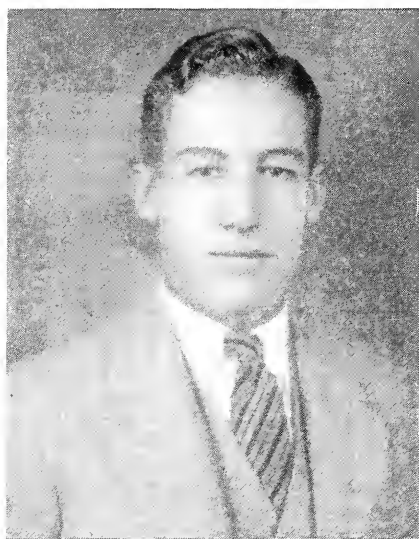
Ruth C. Williams  
1890—  
Presbyterian Hospital R. N. 1917  
Columbia B. S. 1932



Isabel W. Porter  
1894—  
Wellesley B. A. 1917



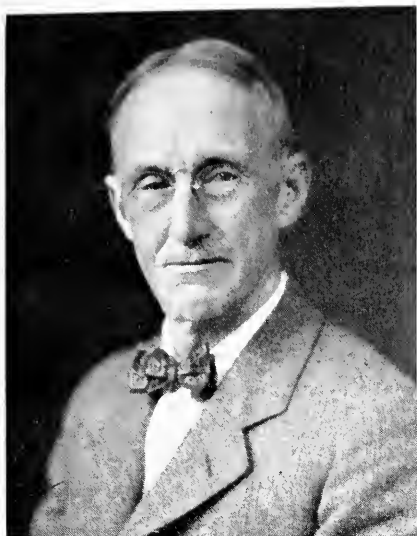
Matthew B. Porter, Jr.  
1893—  
Syracuse University  
Hartford Seminary B. D. 1932  
Married 1921



Dwight Loomis Williams  
1909—  
Yale B. A. 1932



Carol Swicher Williams  
1908—  
Married 1931



James Stoddard Williams  
1859—1935  
Mass. Agr. College B. S. 1882



Katharine Clark (Nicholson)  
Williams  
1857—1943

Married 1887

**KATHARINE PHILLIPS CLARKE**, daughter of Rufus L. B. and Annie Phillips Clarke, was born August 4, 1857 at her grandfather's home in Lynn, Mass.

In 1861 her family moved to Washington, D. C. where Judge Clarke practiced law until he was appointed, by President Grant, to be Chairman of the Board of Appeals of the Patent Office. Katherine attended private schools in Washington, and as a young woman was a great belle in Washington society.

In 1879 she married Augustus A. Nicholson. Their daughter Annie Phillips was born in 1880. Mr. Nicholson died in 1884 and for several years Katharine interested herself in Associated Charities, and wrote a series of articles based on her experiences while with the organization. She also wrote and had published, many poems, following in the footsteps of her mother who, under the pen name of Helen Irving, was a very well known poet and author.

In 1887 she married her second cousin James Stoddard Williams. They had six children:— Katharine Stoddard,

Helen deVotion, Percy Huntington, Edith Clarke, Jessica Hubbard, and James Rufus.

All her life Katharine was interested in geneology, having a great pride in her illustrious line of ancestors. She belonged to the Huguenot Society, Mayflower Society, and presided as Regent in both the Hartford chapter of the D. A. R. and the Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims. While head of the latter she instituted the scholarship fund. During the twenty odd years that she was a member of the Directors of the Hartford County Home she was responsible for many changes and improvements.

For twenty-five years she was President of the Womens' Guild of Saint James Church. She was a devout churchgoer, who knew the meaning of real Christian living, giving of self unstintingly, and it is perhaps for that that she was best known, and is best remembered by all who knew her. No one appealed to her for help and was turned away. There was never a question of race or creed; monetary aid to the poor or a word of comfort to the rich—all given with tact and understanding. She was President of the Glastonbury Chapter of the American Red Cross for twenty-five years and did a great deal "over and above the call of duty." She also took an active interest in The Near East Foundation and the Seamans Church Institute.

Although engrossed in so much outside work her role as mother always came first; her grand children and great grand children loved her and she took an active interest in the doings of four generations.

Her last years were saddened by the death of her husband, and of her son "Jimmy Ru," but she kept up her civic duties until her illness in 1943. Katharine died October 24, 1943, leaving her family, as did James, a great heritage of love, family unity and Christian concepts of daily living.

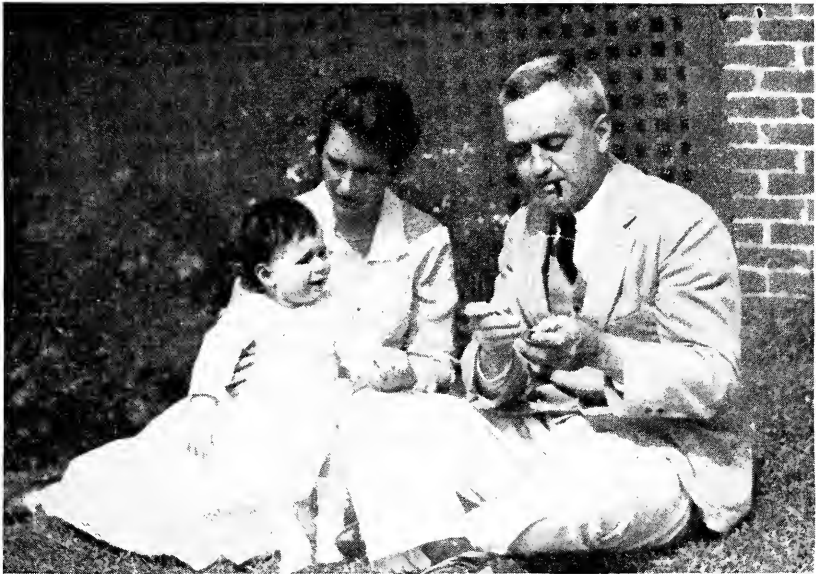
*"The light that filled thy fervent soul,  
Illumed our path as well as thine;  
Thy faith uplifted fainting hearts,  
Thy courage gave them strength divine."*

BY ANNIE PHILLIPS CLARKE





Annie P. Nicholson Hurlburt  
1880—



Katherine W. Hayes  
1889—

James A. Hayes, Jr.  
1883—1938

U. of Penn. L.L.B 1905

Married 1923



Percy Huntington Williams

1894—

Yale B.A. 1917

Gertrude Brock Williams

1894—

Married 1923



Helen W. Rider

1891—



Robert O. Rider

1891—

Mass. Inst. Tech.

Married 1916



Jessica W. Buck  
1899—  
Conn. College 1922



William W. Buck  
1890—  
Trinity B. A. 1911

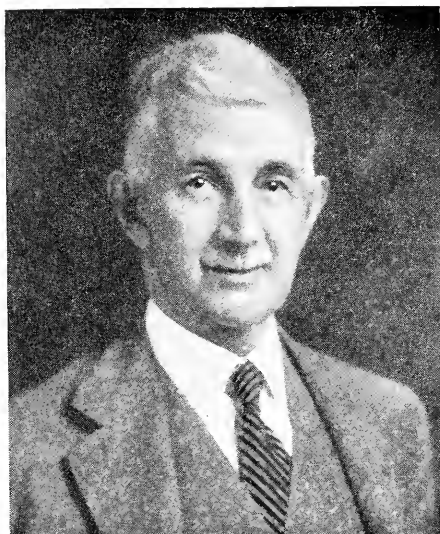
Married 1923



Elberta Blake Williams  
1902—

James Rufus Williams  
1902—1939  
Mass. Agr. College

Married 1926



Samuel Hubbard Williams

1864—

Amherst B. A. 1885



Frances Scudder Williams

1864—

Wellesley B. A. 1885

Married 1889

FRANCES SCUDDER came to Glastonbury when she was nine years old, and has lived here ever since, except for a two year visit with her father and mother in India. This came after her graduation from Wellesley College, where she had taken the five year musical course. When Dr. and Mrs. Scudder, after eleven years in Glastonbury, left to resume missionary work, she promised to follow them for this visit of two years. The fact that she was born in India has brought about several amusing incidents when she has had to fill out questionnaires or reply to officials about the place of her birth. In spite of this, however, she has been a loyal American citizen.

She was married in India in January 1889. The 60th wedding anniversary was celebrated in January 1949 — in Florida.

She has always taken an active part in the work of the Congregational Church in Glastonbury; in the early years in connection with the Junior Christian Endeavor Society, and later as superintendent of the Junior department of the Church School (she has now been named Superintendent Emeritus.)

At one time there were so many nephews and nieces in the group that the other children called her "Mrs. Aunt Fanny."

During the first world war she was chairman of the Town Council of Defence. This organization initiated — and was later merged into — the Glastonbury Visiting Nurse Association, which has been so much of an asset to the town ever since. She was its first president, continuing in that position for 20 years.

As president of the Hartford College Club, some 30 years ago, she appointed a committee to consider the possibility of establishing a College for Women in Connecticut. The College was organized and located in New London. She was named a member of the Board of Trustees, and remained a Trustee all these years until she retired in 1949. A few years ago the College gave her the honorary degree of Master of Arts. The trustees have voted to give her the title of honorary trustee of Connecticut College.

But she has never lost her interest in, and love for, Wellesley College. Her three daughters, and two granddaughters, also graduated there. At one time she was president of the Wellesley Alumnae Association. She was also treasurer for Connecticut of a former drive funds to increase the endowment.

She has long been a member of the Woman's Board of the Hartford Seminary Foundation, and served a term as president.

She is listed in the Woman's Who's Who of America.

There was a large family in the new house, built in 1906; "Grandma Scudder" was there until her death in 1929 "Aunt Mary and Aunt Mattie" made their home there for half of each year; Galen, Norman and Bill Scudder, her nephews came from India, and lived there during high school and college days. A number of family snap shots reveal that she took a vital interest in the activities of the young people as they were growing up. They, with their cousins and friends, formed a group more attractive and interesting than can often be found in any community. She was always ready for a picnic; willing not only to have the rug rolled up for dancing, but also to play two steps and waltzes for hours.

She kept up her music always, and certain things, such as Beethoven's Sonata Pathique, will always be "Mother's special pieces" in the minds of her children. She could accompany remarkably well, and the "Sings" on Sunday evenings with Mother at the piano, and Christmas Carols sung around the fire are treasured family traditions.

The house was often filled with exuberant and happy young people, counting on her to lead and join their activities. House parties during Christmas vacations and before college in the fall made exciting times for those in college and for their Wellesley and Princeton friends. She was the gracious hostess of a home which was a center for good times, and also for meetings of all kinds. Church affairs. Missionary Committee meetings, Wellesley Social events, and others were always welcome to meet there. It will always be a home of happy memories, a home which gave joy to those in it; and a home which stood also for the ideal of service to others.

There have been four children: — Carol Scudder, Frances Rousseau, Martha Huntington, James Baker II.



Carol W. Horton  
1890—1944  
Wellesley B. A. 1912  
Columbia M. A. 1914



Douglas Horton  
1891—  
Princeton B. A. 1912  
Hartford Sem. B. D. 1915  
Chicago D. D. 1932

Married 1915



Frances W. Burr  
1891—  
Wellesley B. A. 1913



Hugh C. Burr  
1890—  
Princeton B. A. 1911  
Union Sem. B. D. 1915  
Kalamazoo D. D. 1943

Married 1916



Martha Huntington Williams  
 1896—  
 Wellesley B. A. 1919  
 Columbia M. A. 1922



James Baker Williams II  
 1900—  
 Amherst B. A. 1923  
 Married 1925



Edith Williams  
 1896—  
 Columbia B. S. 1921





Richard Solomon Williams  
1880—1944  
Amherst B. A. 1902



Marian Farnham Williams  
1882—1933

Married 1904

MARIAN HOMER FARNHAM was born in Beverly, N. J., but lived there only for the first three years of her life, as her family moved to Ossining, then Sing Sing, New York, in 1885. because her grandfather, B. A. Farnham planned to go into business there. As a result, Mother grew up in Ossining, and lived there until her marriage in 1904.

She was educated in the Ossining Schools, and after her graduation, taught the younger boys at the Mt. Pleasant Academy, a private school in Ossining.

She spent a large part of her vacation periods, both during her own school days, and her teaching years, with her cousins in Cambridge and Andover, Massachusetts, and in Portsmouth, N. H. Ossining being close to West Point, she spent many week-ends at the Academy enjoying the various events held there. I remember Mother and her girl-hood friend, Helena Ferguson, telling of the pleasant times they had had there and recalling the exploits of many Army stars of those days. Mother's particular "beau" (boyfriend to our generation) was the captain of the West Point "eleven" in his senior year and she always had a warm spot in her heart for West Point

teams, enjoying the news of an Army victory over the Navy as much as the rest of us enjoyed the news of Amherst beating Williams.

Mother's sister Belle and Aunt Nan met when they were at school at Madame Kraus' in New York and became very good friends. As a result of this friendship, Aunt Nan invited Mother and Aunt Belle to visit her in Glastonbury. During this visit, Mother met Dad for the first time and they were married on October 18th, 1904.

They bought the George Hubbard place, and made their home there, building it over before their marriage and again in 1908. During this second re-modeling, they lived in the "brick" house, as Uncle Sam and Aunt Fanny had recently moved to the new "white house."

The re-modeled house had a very large attic, and there a group of neighbors, called the Saturday Night Club, put on many plays and entertained themselves and their friends on many enjoyable evenings. (The attic also served as a splendid football and baseball field for the "rising hopes" of the neighborhood on stormy days.)

Later, when automobiles became more plentiful, Mother and Dad and several of their friends made weekly trips to Parsons, in Hartford, where they enjoyed the theatre from the audience rather than from the production angle.

Dad did not get a car as soon as several of his brothers, for Mother would not let him have one before the invention of the self-starter. She had heard of too many broken arms from cranking cars, and also, recalled having watched Uncle Sam leap nimbly to one side, after having cranked his car while in gear.

During her early years in Glastonbury, Mother took many pictures of our home and grounds as well as of the neighbors and of the places she visited. Most of these pictures she developed and printed herself, as this was her hobby, and I often recall long rolls of film draped from one towel rack to another and dripping into the bathtub.

During the years we lived in Hartford during the winter, Mother joined an afternoon bridge club which she enjoyed very much, as she was always fond of playing auction and later contract. However, her enjoyment of this and other

activities was greatly curtailed very shortly, for, in the summer of 1922 or 23, she underwent a very serious operation, from which she never fully recovered.

After her illness, she turned to cross-word and jig-saw puzzles for amusement. She also made several bead bags during these years and read a great deal. After doing puzzles over several times, they would become too easy for her, so she would turn them over and put the pieces together by matching the grain of the wood.

In 1929, we gave up the Hartford apartment and returned to live in Glastonbury the full year, except for a two or three week vacation spent in northern New England. Mother seemed better during these years, but became ill in January, 1933 and did not recover, being bedridden for the last six months of her life.

Mother, Dad and I were always very congenial and one of the last things she said to us was, "Haven't we had good times together." We ceretainly had.



Richard Gordon Williams  
1908—  
Amherst 1930



Elizabeth Way Williams  
1909—  
Conn. College



Jessie W. Welch  
1856—1901  
Wellesley 1880



Henry F. Welch  
1851—

HENRY FROST WELCH was born in 1851 in Charleston, South Carolina, his parents were Samuel Billings and Elizabeth Laing Welch, who had moved to that southern city from Philadelphia.

Charleston is a fascinating city, and during the War between the States was the center of much activity. A boy of his age would naturally haunt the water front in those years. One section of the waterfront, called the "Battery" is a unique feature of the city. From there he saw the firing on Fort Sumter, and watched the bombardment of Charleston by the \*Swamp Angel on Morris Island. His memory of those years is vivid, and he tells of many interesting experiences. Part of the time was spent in Timmonsville, where the family refueed.

Later he took an active part in the campaign against the carpet-bagging rule in 1876. He recalls vividly the great earthquake of 1886.

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\* This was a name given by northern soldiers to an eight inch cannon, set up in the swamp of Morris Island, and used in the siege of Charleston. After it burst it was sent north, and set on a granite base in Trenton, N. J.

His formal education in the Charleston schools ended when he was 15 years old. In this respect his life was comparable with that of his father-in-law, James B. Williams, who left school at the age of 14.

*Dr. Hamilton Holt, President of Rollins College, in his farewell talk to a graduating class, once said: "No college can educate you. All education is self-education. The college can stimulate, advise and point out the way. But the path must be trod by you."*

The lives of these two men prove the truth of this axiom. An omnivorous reader, Henry Welch became an educated, cultured, gentleman. He studied Spanish in spare moments and often quoted Spanish phrases. He had a remarkable knowledge of Shakespeare's writings so that he could often quote aptly from them.

When he left school in the year 1886 he secured a position with William M. Bird & Company as office boy at \$2.50 a month. He has been connected with that company, dealers in paints and oils, for the last 83 years — a very remarkable record. As he worked upward in the business his progress must have seemed to him at times to be very slow. After he had been there for 48 years the business was incorporated and he was chosen president. This was in 1914. His active participation in the business continued for 19 years more. Then, in 1933 when he had been with the company for 67 years, he was made Chairman of the Board of Directors — a position he still holds.

He has been a public spirited citizen, interested in all good causes. The South Carolina Society has benefited by his activity. He was Steward (head of the society) for nearly 25 years, and was then made Steward Emeritus. This society is unique. It was founded over 200 years ago—in 1737—with the avowed purpose of caring for any indigent members, and providing education for their children. The membership is limited to 125, and there is usually a long waiting list. At the Bicentennial Celebration held in 1937, a silver cup, suitably inscribed, was presented to Henry Welch as "A token of affection from the members of the Society."

He is a member of the Prebysterian Church, and past-master of the local lodge of Masons.

Although his eye sight, hearing and ability to walk are impaired, members of his family say that he takes a keen interest in current affairs. The morning newspaper is read to him regularly, and he seldom misses a news broadcast.

Henry's first wife was Sarah Spencer, whom he married in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1880. There was one son, Norman, who used to visit often in Glastonbury, when a boy and young man. He lives in Charleston, and has a son and daughter, who are both married.

Jessie Williams was a second cousin of Sarah Spencer. The Welch's used to come north in the summer time, and, at least once, when Norman was a very small boy, visited the Williams family in the "House that James Built." Some years after Sarah's death, Henry and Jessie were married in 1895. She died in Charleston in 1902.

Nine years later he took for his third wife Margaret Hughes, of Marion Ohio. For 38 years she has been a devoted wife and helpmate. They have one son, Henry Hughes Welch, who lives in Wilmington, Delaware, and is executive secretary of the Welfare Council of Delaware.

## THE AUNTS



Mary Ellen Williams  
1850—1939



Martha Baker Williams  
1854—1945

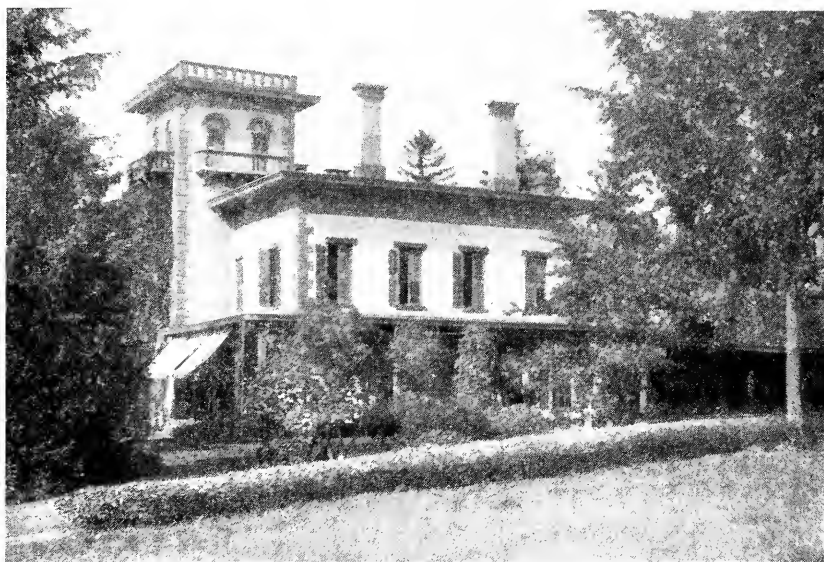


Anne Shelton Williams  
1876—1948

Houses in Glastonbury in which the families have lived



Little House under the Hill  
J. B. Williams Family, 10 years



Brick House on the Hill  
J. B. Williams Family, 50 years  
J. S. Williams Family, 30 years





Grandfather Hubbard's House  
D. W. Williams Family, 15 years  
S. H. Williams Family, 15 years



Uncle William's House  
J. S. Williams Family, 20 years



The George Hubbard House  
R. S. Williams Family, 40 years



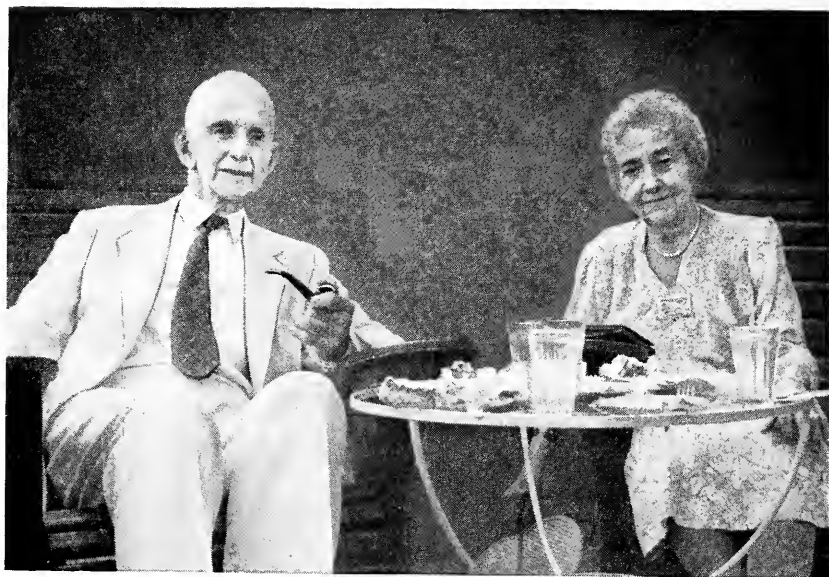
D. W. W. New House  
D. W. Williams Family, 56 years



S. H. W. New House  
S. H. Williams Family, 43 years



The Aunts' House  
Mary E. Williams }  
Martha B. Williams } 13 years  
Anne S. Williams }



*We hope this album may fill out for our nephews and nieces the record of three generations.*

*The next generation has yet to prove itself, and we hope all its members will live up to the high ideals of James Baker Williams, his children and grandchildren.*

*We hope too that you will all keep in touch one with another, so that you may continue to form a united family worthy of your fine New England heritage.*

UNCLE SAM AND AUNT FANNY







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